



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's Corner

Sunday November 25, 2007

Dear Parishioners, on this **Feast of Christ the King**, allow me the opportunity to direct this piece of advice to *Fathers*. As we well know, many in our midst have been bereft of the experience of fathers while growing up, and this, for a variety of reasons. Here are a few simple but important suggestions by John El-dredge to *Fathers*, and that includes Fr.'s Pierre and I, of course:

"In the end, the most important issue is *love*. It always has been, always will be. More than anything else, your son and daughter long to know that you love them, truly love them. That you *delight* in them. It's really the core desire of any human heart.

You might remember that day when Jesus was baptized by his cousin John. As he came back out of the water, God the Father spoke – I mean, literally, out loud, so everyone could hear. He did that only three times in the entire life of Christ, so it must have been an important moment. What did the Father have to say? *This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.* (Matt. 3:17, NKJV). In other words, 'Jesus, you are my delight. I am so very proud of you. You have what it takes.' God the Father expressed his delight in his Son. This is just amazing. There's our model – there's the basic message that we, too, are meant to give our children: *I delight in you.* Somehow when a child is secure in that love, the wounds just don't go quite as deep, and the lesser failings are more easily forgotten.

This is the most basic of all our missions, the fundamental assignment of our lives: to make sure our children know that we love them. To say to each son, 'I'm so proud of you. You have what it takes.' To let each daughter know, 'How I delight in you. You are lovely.' If we get that said, and said a thousand different ways over the course of their childhoods, we'll have done a pretty good job of being dads.

Every dad can offer this. But only *you* can offer this as a father to your children. You are the man. You have what it takes. *God bless, Fr. Mark.*



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Nov. 25:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
2:00pm Restorative Justice Event (see announcement)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
- Mon. Nov. 26:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm YM Leaders (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Lay Apostle Info Mtg. (see announcement)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Nov. 27:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Nov. 28:** 8:30am Respect Life Meeting (Rectory Dining Room)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Nov. 29:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Theology of the Body (Seminar Room)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Nov. 30:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Catholic Christian Outreach (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Dec. 01:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
6:15pm **Light Up for Christmas** (see announcement)
7:00pm Christian Life Program (School Gym)
- Sun. Dec. 02:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ Meeting (Church Basement)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)

SCHEDULE OF ADVENT PARISH RECONCILIATION

- Sat. Dec. 01:** 7:00pm Our Lady of Hungary Parish
- Sat. Dec. 08:** 7:00pm St. Francis Xavier's Parish
- Wed. Dec. 12:** 8:00pm St. Joseph's Parish
- Mon. Dec. 17:** 7:00pm St. Jude's Parish & St. Helen's Parish
- Tue. Dec. 18:** 7:00pm St. Theresa's Parish & OL of Sorrows
- Wed. Dec. 19:** 7:00pm Our Lady of Fatima Parish
- Thu. Dec. 20:** 6:30pm Corpus Christi & 7pm St. Casimir
- Fri. Dec. 21:** 7:00pm St. Francis of Assisi Parish
7:30pm St. Mary's Parish

PARISH NEWS

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKES

Respect Life will be selling Christmas Cards & quality Christmas Cakes after all masses on this weekend **Nov. 25/26**. All proceeds support Pro-Life. Thanks for your support.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE EVENT

Exodus Ministry and Street Ministry are sponsoring a Restorative Justice event on this **Sun. Nov. 25** at 2pm. We will have a special guest speaker who has experienced forgiveness at the most profound level. Come, listen, watch several short films about prison ministry and join in a discussion on such questions as "How do we love our neighbor/" and "How do punishment and restorative justice fit in with my Christian beliefs?"

AN INTRODUCTION TO JOHN PAUL II'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Thu. Nov. 29. Location: St. Mary's School Seminar Room
Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

LIGHT UP FOR CHRISTMAS

St. Mary's welcomes all parishioners and families to celebrate its annual **"Light Up For Christmas" on Dec. 1 at 6:15pm** in the Church, after the 5pm Mass. The service includes singing of Christmas Hymns, Prayers, Blessing and Light up of the Christmas Tree and Billboard sign - **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** on the Church roof. This will be followed by a 'behind the scenes' tour of the Church (*with a twist*) for all parishioners especially our children. Come discover the Church like you've never seen it before. Have you ever wondered where Father goes after Mass? How about when people 'disappear' behind the altar? Come and find out for yourself. The Knights of Columbus will distribute an Advent Wreath Prayer Card & a special treat for the children, in the Church Bsmt. Don't miss this Enlightening Christmas Spirit activity!



YOUTH MINISTRY SUNDAY - DEC. 2

Next week is Youth Ministry Sunday. While we thank you for the support that you have given us last year, we appeal to you for your generosity once again. The second collection will be for the work that we do in YM. Please help us reach out to more youth this coming year. All the YM leaders and members thank you in advance. God bless!

SMYAC BOOK CLUB MEETING

Mon. Dec. 3, 7:30-9:00pm. Rectory. We will discuss Ch. 3 & 4 of Mother Teresa's book, "Come Be My Light". If you don't have a copy of the book, you are still more than welcome to join us in discussion, as we learn more about this modern-day saint!

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

YM FAITH IN ACTION

It's 1st Friday again. Join us in our monthly Faith in Action on **Dec. 7, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm** in the Church Basement.

SMYAC COFFEE NIGHT MONTHLY FAITH FORUM

Fri. Dec. 7, 8:30pm, Rectory Bsmt. Join us for another episode of Catholic talk. Light Refreshments will also be served.

ST. MARY'S SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sat. Dec. 8 -- A special Christmas Luncheon will be hosted in honour of all our St. Mary's Seniors (65 years and above) by reservations only. Lunch will be served at approximately 1:00pm in the school gym, following the 11:15am Mass. For reservations call John Rudland at 604-433-0884 or Margherita (Ext.3) at the Parish Office.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



St. Mary's Street Ministry thanks all the children who donated their halloween candy for use in our ministry. God Bless You.

COLLINGWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE BREAD DELIVERY

One hour per month (either Tuesday or Friday evening, 6pm pick up (only takes about an hour total). Currently there is a need for younger people to help lift the bins. Tasks: 1) take bread from shelves and put it in bins and 2) drive the bread down to Collingwood community center. A great way to meet some new people and help out the community! If you would like to help out, or if you like more info, please contact Stefan Spicer at stefan.spicer@gmail.com!

LOOKING FOR DIRECTION? Lay Apostle Information Evening

Several years ago, "Anne", a wife and mother of six, started receiving messages from God the Father, Jesus, Mary and the saints. These messages, received in the form of inner locution, are spoken with divine love, clarity and authority, and Anne has received permission from her bishop, Leo O'Reilly, Diocese of Kilmore, to publish the works. Jesus calls this work His Rescue Mission and says that it is the greatest mission of mercy the world has ever known, and there is a heavenly urgency in distributing the messages to as many of his children as possible. If you have ever yearned to hear God's voice and know His will, consider attending a special presentation at St. Mary's Church basement on **Mon. Nov. 26** at 7pm. Contact Karen (778) 990-0123 or www.directionforourtimes.com for further info.

Quote: "We will have an evening of information about the lay apostle movement. I got to know about this movement at my retreat in Ars, attended by 850 priests and 15 bishops. I am therefore confident about this new addition to our parish groups. Fr. Pierre"

COMMUNITY NEWS

ADVENT RETREAT AND DAY OF RECOLLECTION

On **Sat. Dec. 1**, Fr. Gabriel De Chadarevian, O.P. will preach an advent retreat from 9am to 5pm at Our Lady of Hungary Church, 1810 E. 7th Ave., Vcr. All are welcome!

PRO-LIFE MASS & VIGIL

Peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. **Sat. Dec. 1** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 10460 - 139th Street. Mass at 9am followed by Rosary at Surrey Memorial Hospital.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 2nd ANNUAL HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS DINNER & AUCTION

Sat. Dec. 1, with guest Auctioneer Bill Vanderzalm! Only few days left! Few TICKETS left!! \$40 each or \$70 a couple. To purchase your tickets, Call The Parish @ 434-1328.

V.I.P. (VOCATIONS IN PROGRESS)

We invite single Catholic men (ages 17 & up) to join us as we look at "Temptations and the call to holiness through Scripture." The meeting will be held on **Sun. Dec. 02** at **St. Andrew Parish, 480 E. 47 Ave. Vcr.** (between Fraser & Main St.) at **7:30pm**, in the Luminous Hall. For more info, please call Father Hien Nguyen or Fr. Tom Smith at the Vocations Office (604) 443-3254. Or visit our website at: www.vocationsvan-couver.com Your questions are Very Important to us.



HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL VOCAL CONCERT

Sun. Dec. 2 at **7pm**. Classical & Contemporary Songs & Poems about Mary's Life. Program Includes: A Celtic Prayer, Breath of Heaven, Children's Music, Vergin Tutto Amor, Balm In Gilead, Udvozlegy Maria, Bells of Bethlehem, Ave Maria. Sacred Classical Soloist: Adeleina Kissh will be joined by Tenor: Adrian Glaubert. Also singing for the 8pm Mass: original & new compositions. 646 Richards Street, Downtown Vcr. Please see the BC Catholic Newspaper for a list of all H.R.C. concerts.

ST. ANDREWS PARISH ADVENT RETREAT

Fr. Lucien Larre will give a Parish Advent Retreat on **Dec. 8** at 5pm, **Dec. 9** at 8:30am, 10am & 12pm & on weekday evening Masses **Dec. 10-13** at 7pm. All are welcome! For details call 604-327-2824.

A VIGIL CELEBRATING JOHN MAIN'S LIFE & LEGACY

Dec. 30, 7:00pm, at St. Augustine's Church, 2028 W. 7th Ave., Vcr. 2007 marks the 25th anniversary of John Main's death, a Benedictine monk who revived the practice of Christian Meditation. Join us for prayers, reflection, readings from the work of John Main, Taize chant & Christian Silent Meditation. Pre-sented by the B.C. Christian Meditation Community. All are welcome!

COMMUNITY NEWS

CARING FOR SEAFARERS AROUND THE WORLD

Christmas is a special time. It gives us a chance to point our seafarers to the true gift of Christmas, which is the gift of Jesus Christ to the world. The Mission to Seafarers asks for your participation in providing a gift for our Seafarers who will be away from their homes and families during Christmas. We ask you to enclose a Christmas card with your personal greeting. The items are provided in a shoe box. Please pick up a flier from the foyer for more details.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. - Fri. 7:00pm followed by Adoration
& Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday - 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday - 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm
RECONCILIATION Sunday & Weekdays - Before and after all Masses.
Saturday - 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursday - 8:00am; Saturday - 12:00pm
FIRST FRIDAY Adoration Throughout the day after Masses
Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Benediction: 9:15pm

BAPTISM To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP Religious education program for children attending public schools.
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00pm

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'silva
Contact: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.ca
YOUTH MINISTRY E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Kevin Smith (Principal)
K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Pastor : Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP
Assistant Pastor : Fr. Mark Hoo, OP
Youth and PREP Coordinator : Eli Bautista
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes